

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to establish an interim study committee to examine issues pertaining to drug and alcohol treatment programs for criminal offenders.

SERVER, HUME

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to establish an interim study committee to examine issues pertaining to drug and alcohol treatment programs for criminal offenders.

Whereas, from January 1, 1997 to January 1, 2001 the total adult prison population has increased from 16,946 to 20,125;

Whereas, while recidivism rates for possession and use of controlled substances and operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated continue to increase, so have the penalties for these offenses, thereby contributing to the cost and overcrowding problems with prisons;

Whereas, though these offenses are certainly worthy of severe punishment, recidivism rates might be reduced by effective treatment of drug and alcohol abuse;

Whereas, there are a wide array of treatment programs for drug and alcohol abuse, including those imposed by courts throughout Indiana, that each provide varying degrees of effectiveness;

Whereas, under Indiana's existing credit time statute, inmates are able to reduce their sentence upon completion of certain substance abuse programs approved by the department of correction; however, there has not been a



comprehensive study of the effectiveness of this program;

Whereas, the Indiana General Assembly should consider the benefits of sentencing offenders to drug and alcohol abuse treatment programs as compared to the cost of increased incarceration and punishment for certain alcohol and drug related crimes: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Legislative Council is urged to establish an
- 2 interim study committee to examine issues pertaining to drug and
- 3 alcohol treatment programs for criminal offenders.
- 4 SECTION 2. That the study committee, if established, shall do the
- 5 following:
- 6 (1) Assess the drug and alcohol abuse treatment programs
- 7 currently available and identify the most effective method of
- 8 treatment.
- 9 (2) Study the potential costs and benefits of providing such
- 10 treatment.
- 11 (3) If determined appropriate by the committee, recommend
- 12 legislation regarding treatment programs for
- 13 criminal offenders.
- 14 SECTION 3. That the committee, if established, shall operate
- 15 under the direction of the Legislative Council and that the committee
- 16 shall issue a final report when directed to do so by the Council.

